App. No: 10/079,938

Page 19

REMARKS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 4-102 are pending with entry of this amendment, claims 1-3 being cancelled and no claims being added herein. Claims 4, 40-50, 54, 56, 61, 62, 101, and 102 are amended herein. These amendments introduce no new matter. Support is replete throughout the specification (*e.g.*, in claims 1-4 as originally filed.). The amendments to claims 40-50, 54, 56, 61, 62, 101, and 102 are simply to correct claim dependency in view of the claim cancellations.

Claim Objections:

The Examiner objected to claim 4 indicating that line 2 should be changed from "triple decker sandwhich" to --triple-decker sandwich-- as recited in claim 1. Claim 4 is amended herein thereby obviating this objection.

Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants note that an Information Disclosure Statement (PTO Form 1449) was submitted on April 9, 2003 (before the mailing date of the present Office Action). Applicants respectfully request that the references cited therein be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Examiner indicated Claims 4-39 would be allowable of amended to overcome the objection to claim 4 and if be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 4-39, and 43 are amended herein such that all these claims ultimately depend on claim 4 which, per the Examiner's recommendation, is amended to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In addition, claims 40-42 and 44-70 are also amended herein to ultimately depend incorporate the limitations of claim 4 as well.

Accordingly, Applicants believe these claims are allowable over the art of record as well.

Applicants also note that claims 71-102 are allowed.

In view of this Applicants believe that pending claims 4-102 are allowable or allowed. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

App. No: 10/079,938

Page 20

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3513.

QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

GROUP, P.C.

P.O. BOX 458 Alameda, CA 94501

Tel: 510 337-7871

Fax: 510 337-7877

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hunter Reg. No: 38,498

c:\toms work_prosecution - current\407t uc ott\407t-301500us multistate dyads\407t-301500us.am1.doc